

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

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INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 250756Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4312

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CH CB

SUBJ: PRC COMMENT ON THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF GRUNK

REF: A) HONG KONG 3023; B) HONG KONG 2992

SUMMARY: IN FURTHER PRC CELEBRAION OF THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE GRUNK (REF A), CHU TE AND CHOU EN-LAI SENT A CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM TO SIHANOUK AND PENN NOUTH, VICE PREMIERS TENG HSIAO-PING AND CHI TENG-KUEI ATTENDED THE GRUNK AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION, PEOPLE'S DAILY CARRIED AN EDITORIAL, AND NCNA FEATURED A LONG CORRESPONDENT'S ARTICLE. THROUGHOUT, THE CAMBODIAN STIUATION WAS DECLARED EXCELLENT AND A GRUNK VICTORY IMMINENT. THE SOVIETS WERE AGAIN ATTACKED FOR ONLY BELATEDLY BACKING THE GRUNK. THE PRC ATTENTION FOCUSED ON SIHANOUK, INDICATING THE PRC BELIEVES HE WILL HAVE SOME INFLUENCE IN A POST-WAR CAMBODIA. END SUMMARY

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1. IN A MESSAGE MARCH 22 CHU TEH AND CHOU EN-LAI, "ON BE-

HALF OF CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE", CONGRATULATED SIHANOUK AND PENN NOUTH ON THE "HEARTENING" SITUATION IN CAMBODIA, IN WHICH "NO US IMPERIALIST PANGLOSS CAN SAVE" THE LON NOL CLIQUE. AS "CLOSE COMRADES IN ARMS AND BROTHERS", THE CHINESE PLEDGED "FIRM SUPPORT- TO THE CAMBODIANS.

2. TENG HSIAO-PING AND CHI TENG-KUEI ATTENDED THE CAMBODIAN AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION IN PEKING THE SAME DAY. SIHANOUK REITERATED HIS "PRINCIPLED STAND" AGAINST "NEGOTIATIONS" AND , IN RATHER DEFINITE TERMS , REJECTED THE POSSIBILITY OF TALKS WITH ANY CABINET HEADED BY "TRAITOR LONG BORET, THE TITLED, LAKEY OF JOHN GUNTHER DEAN". IN RESPONSE, FONMIN CHIAO KUAN-HUA GAVE A SPEECH ALONG THE LINES OF PARAGRAPH 1., BUT STRESSING AS WELL THAT UNDER SIHANOUK AND GRUNK UNITY HAD BEEN ACHIEVED, "EMBRACING EXTENSIVELY PEOPLE OF ALL STRATA".

3. A PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL, WHICH MENTIONED ONLY SIHANOUK BY NAME, STRESSED MAOIST DOCTRINE THAT " A WEAK NATION CAN DEFEAT A STRONG, A SMALL NATION CAN DEFEAT A BIG". THE EDITORIAL LINKED THE SUCCESSFUL MILITARY STRUGGLE OF THE CAMBODIANS TO THE STRUGGLE OF (THIRD) WORLD PEOPLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND HEGEMONISM. DESPITE US AIRLIFT EFFORTS, THE EDITORIAL PREDICTS LON NOL'S FALL, AND PLEDGES CONTINUED CHINESE SUPPORT.

4. THE LENGTHY NCNA CORRESPONDENT ARTICLE MARCH 22 REVIEWED HOW "US AGGRESSORS", AND "SOVIET REVISIONISTS" WERE FOILED BY THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE AND LIBERATION ARMED FORCES, WHICH GREW "FROM SMALL TO BIG AND FROM WEAK TO STRONG" AND "BROUGHT ABOUT AN EXCELLENT SITUATION WITH THE BARREL OF A GUN". FAMILIAR (CHINESE) STRATEGIES ARE CITED AS THE ROAD FOLLOWED TO VICTORY: LEARNING WAR FROM WAR, USING THE COUNTRYSIDE TO ENCIRCLE THE CITIES, KEEPING THE INITIATIVE FIRMLY IN THEIR OWN HANDS, COORDINATING MAIN, REGIONAL AND LOCAL FORCES, RELYING ON THE MASSES, AND INCREASING PRODUCTION .... WHILE US ACTION AND INTRANSIGENCE ARE CITED, SOVIET REVISIONISTS ARE EXPOSED AS HAVING FIRST "GANGED UP WITH THE LON NOL CLIQUE, AND MOST RECENTLY " TRIMMING THEIR SAIL" TO "VRAZENLY TRUMPET THEIR MERITS OF CONSISTENT SUPPORT FOR THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE'S ARMED STRUGGLE."

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5. COMMENT: THIS IS THE SECOND CHINESE ATTEMPT TO UNDERCUT SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE POST-WAR CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT (REF B). THE CHINESE DIGS AT THIS TIME APPEAR DESIGNED NOT ONLY TO REMIND THE GRUNK OF SOVIET MISDEEDS, BUT ALSO TO APPEAL TO A LARGER (THIRD WORLD) AUDIENCE. THE CHINESE PROBABLY HOPE THE PRO-SOVIET GRUNK FACTION HAS BEEN PUT ON THE DEFENSIVE TO THE ADVANTAGE OF OTHER FACTIONS, WHICH SHOULD HELP TO STRENGTHEN

PRC-GRUNK TIES.

6. IN ITS CELEBRATIONS, THE PRC CONCENTRATED ITS ATTENTION ON SIHANOUK. HIS NAME WAS THE ONLY ONE MENTIONED IN THE EDITORIAL. NCNA CARRIED NOT ONLY SHORT EXCERPTS OF HIS SPEECH IN REPORTING ON THE RECEPTION BUT THEN RAN A SEPARATE ITEM PROVIDING LONGER, AND MORE STRONGLY ANTI-AMERICAN EXCERPTS. THE PRC HAS DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO SIAHNOUK DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARAS AND APPARENTLY BELIEVES THAT SIHANOUK WILL HAVE A POSITION OF SOME INFLUENCE IN A POST-WAR GRUNK AND THAT THEIR PAST EFFORTS WITH HIM WILL PAY DIVIDENDS.  
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